1	2	3	4
13.	Northern Eastern	561	259
14.	Punjab	1671	1666
15.	Orissa	998	918
16.	Rajasthan	1901	1798
17.	Tamilnadu	5832	5957
18.	Uttar Pradesh	5343	5394
19.	West Bengal	5021	5593

Complaints about unsatisfactory Telephone Services

510. DR. MOHD. HASHlM KIDWAI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of complaints received regarding the highly unsatisfactory service of telephone during the year 1988;

(b) what were the corresponding figures for the years 1986 and 1987; and

(c) what remedial measures have been taken by Government to improve the telephone service especially in Delhi, Calcutta, Bombay, Madras and other' State capitals?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMAN-GO): (a) and (b) The details are given below :—

	1985-86	1986-87	1987-88	April 88 to Dec. 88
Complaints/ 100 stations/ month	40.5	36.8	30	28

(c) To improve the telecom, services in cities like Bombay, Madras, Calcutta, Delhi and other State Capitals, the following steps have been taken by the Department:—

(i) Replacement of old, wornout electromechanical exchanges by Electronic ones;

(ii) Replacement of old telephone instruments by new one;

(iii) Replacement of overhead alignments by underground cables;

(iv) Replacement of fault prone underground cables and drop wires by new one; and

(v) Rehabilitation and locking of DPs.

Suspending release of LPG for hotels and non-domestic use by Bharat Petrol. Corporation Limited

511. DR. BAPU KALDATE: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited has suspended the release of LPG for the use by hotels and for non-domestic use;

(b) if so, since when this has been stopped;

(c) whether there is any proposal to restart the supply of LPG for hotels and for non-domestic use; and

(d) if so, by when it is likely to start?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHM DUTT): (a) to (d) while release of LPG for new hotels and non-domestic users is being made by the oil industry in a restricted manner, supplies to existing users have not been restricted.

Action against the former Chairman of CIL

512. SHRI M. S. GURUPADASWAMY: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a tact that the fomer Chairman of the Coal India Limited (CIL) failed to deliver the share docu' ments of the C.I.L. to the new incumbant on his transfer;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) what departmental action has been taken against the Chairman failing to comply with the official duties?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COAL IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI C.K. JAFFAR SHARIEF): (a) to (c) The former Chairman of Coal India Limited was not in custody of the Share Certificate of Coal India Ltd. which stood in his name on behalf of the President of India. On expiry of his term of office he had to sign the transfer form; this he did on being asked to do so by the Department of Coal. No Departmental action is warranted in the circumstances of the case.

Price reduction of Low Density Polyethyline

513. SHRI M.S. GURUPADASWAMY: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to reduce the price of low density polyethyliner (LDPE);

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether the reduced price will lead to the complete stoppage of production of LDPE in the country?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO): (a) to (c) At present Indian Petrochemicals Corporation Ltd. (IPCL), a Central Public Sector Undertaking, is the only manufacturer of LDPE in the country. As the domestic availability of LDPE is significantly short of the indigenous demand, import of LDPE is allowed on OGL for actual users as well as for stock and sale; IPCL has been effecting imports of LDPE to cater to the requirements of small scale units who find it difficult to organise imports on their own. IPCL offers indigenous and imported LDPE to the consumers at a pooled price which is adjusted from time to time depending upon the landed cost of imports. The pooled price was reduced by around Rs. 3 Kg. in December, 1988.

This reduction in the pooled price will have no adverse impact on the production of LDPE in the country.

Complaints against CMD of NEEPCO

514. SHRI VISHWASRAO RAMRAO PATIL. Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware about several cases having been filed in the courts against the Chairman-cum-Manag-ing Director of North Eastern Electric Power Corporation Limited, Shillong;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) what is Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI KALPNATH RAI): (a) to (c) The North Eastern Electric Power Corporation (NEEPCO) have informed that, as at present, excepting one case filed in the Court by one officer of the Corporation, challenging the promotion order of the Executive Engineers to the next grade of Superintending Engineers, and seniority of some of the promotees, no other case, or Notice from the Court, are currently pending.

Telephone facilities in rural post offices

515. SHRI VITHALRAO MADHAVRAO JADHAV: SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR SAHU:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to have telephone facilities in all post offices of the country;

(b) what is the percentage of urban and rural telephone connections in the country;

(c) by when all rural areas will have telephone facilities in the country; and

(d) what is the plan thereof?